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THE RESISTANCE WAR AGAINST US AGGRESSION MAY DRAG ON. OUR COMPATRIOTS MAY HAVE TO FACE NEW SACRIFICES IN PROPERTY AND LIVES. WHATEVER MAY HAPPEN, WE MUST KEEP FIRM OUR RESOLVE TO FIGHT THE US AGGRESSORS TILL TOTAL VICTORY

Testament of President HO CHI MINH

editorial

US setbacks will grow in proportion to its obduracy

TENSION is growing in Viet Nam and on all the Indochinese peninsula. The US imperialists are prolonging their bloody war of aggression in South Viet Nam with unprecedented atrociousness through "Vietnamization". "Special pacification" sweeps are daily occurrences even in occupied areas and cities. B.52 strategic planes are spreading their massive carpets of bombs over Vietnamese villages. The increasing fierceness of US air and artillery action against South Viet Nam is borne out by the recent use of over one hundred B.52s at a time to rain 3,000 tons of bombs on a number of localities of Thua Thien and Quang Tri provinces. US toxic chemicals are continuing to play havoc among the civilian people, their cattle and their crops.

US troops were withdrawn from Cambodia but the flames of the US war of aggression are mounting there. Applying the Nixon doctrine, Washington sent Saigon troops into this "oasis of peace," and the number of their battalions rose from 21 to 28 in August 1970. Thailand has just concluded with the US a bargain to dispatch 5,000 mercenaries of her own to Cambodia. The Angkor temples, this cultural heritage of mankind, are daily subjected to heavy US bombings. The horrors of an inhuman war of aggression are endangering the once peaceful life of Cambodians.

In Laos, fighting is going on despite proofs of good will of the Lao Patriotic Front. To expand their "special war" against this country the US aggressors are carrying on the application of their formula: US fire power + puppet combat troops. On this land of One Million Elephants, the Plain of Jars and the Lower Laos High Plateaux are the most murderous theatres of operations.

WHILE intensifying and enlarging their aggression against Indochina, the US rulers are clamouring about their love for peace—Nixon's "era of negotiation." Negotiation is being used by the US President to cover US crimes in Viet Nam, Indochina and elsewhere in the world.

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SO LONG AS THE US IMPERIALISTS DO NOT CEASE THEIR WAR OF AGGRESSION AND PULL OUT THEIR TROOPS AND THOSE OF SATELLITE COUNTRIES FROM SOUTH VIET NAM, WE SHALL FIGHT ON UNTIL TOTAL VICTORY

An Old Farce

LAST August 30, the Saigon administration staged "partial Senate elections" under the close watch of sizable police and armed forces.

To everyone's mind this was just a farce, and not a new one at that. Three years ago, similar elections took place, about which the *Baltimore Sun* (June 2, 1969) said: The 1967 elections bringing Thieu to power were held under pressure of American opinion and those to a Lower House and a Senate, were wire-pulled and not really free. Even a number of returned candidates admitted that the elections had been a fraud. An *AFP* dispatch (Sept. 30, 1967) reported that 60 to 80 "MPs" deemed these elections invalid. Nguyen Cao Ky himself later on confessed that they were a sheer waste of time and a joke (*Evening Star*, March 31, 1969).

The August 30 elections drew similar public fire in the South Viet Nam occupied zone. *Tin Sang* (July 7,) editorially commented: "Elections in South Viet Nam constitute no truly democratic proceedings aimed at helping the population, but merely put a legal face on the state apparatus... Most of the representatives toe the administration's line." *Chinh Luan* (July 15), another Saigon paper, looked upon the elections as a Nguyen Van Thieu's manoeuvre to instal "his placemen in the Senate so as to divide and control it, and thereby achieve his own political goals."

Wide social segments displayed indifference or active opposition to the administration's move. The students declared they would boycott it and called on the population to do so. War wounded of the puppet army demonstrated in the streets and passed a protest resolution. Tran Van Don, a general and leading member of the opposition, stated he would "no longer run elections since President Thieu has moulded the Senate to his image." Together with many "MP's, the other opposition factions denounced Thieu's fraudulent manœuvres. The *BBC* (August 26) reported that the electoral campaign was absolutely colourless, and few were discussions in public.

Clearly, the elections this year were intended solely to provide a "democratic" and "legal" veneer to the Thieu administration, a semblance of political stability in South Viet Nam with a view to deceiving public opinion.

Of the eighteen tickets two were withdrawn owing to shortage of candidates and of campaign fund. None of the remaining sixteen, which consisted of 160 "horses" competing for the thirty "troughs" of the Senate, were representative of various social sections. Most of the candidates were men of the ruling Thieu-Ky junta or reactionary parties. Not a single ticket raised anti-war slogans or urged the pull-out of American troops. Concerning the ending of the war, the contenders made vague professions such as "get prepared for peace", "peace and prosperity," "peace for the people," "genuine peace," which *AFP* (August 20) described as "vague and moderate" slogans. No wonder therefore the returns will prove "disappointing" to a few people still believing in the usefulness of elections under the Saigon regime.

Didn't Thieu openly tell a number of "MP"s that there was no question of amending the constitution, no sharing of power with any one else? (*USIS*, August 19).

"Why waste time holding elections?", asks Saigon press

AFTER the "provincial and municipal elections" Nguyen Van Thieu and his confederates are noisily drumming those to replace half of the "senate." As the previous one, this election farce is sharply taken to task by public opinion. While large segments of the population in Saigon and other urban centres of South Viet Nam are holding meetings, demonstrations and teach-ins in protest, Saigon press is continually exposing the ruling junta's transparent move.

In spite of repeated seizures, *Hoa Binh*, *Cap Tien* and *Tin Sang*, not to mention other papers, have had the same questions to ask in recent issues, "What's the use holding elections when the people are leading a hand-to-mouth existence, and the administration is wholly dependent on foreigners?", "Why waste the people's time staging elections when the executive is free to put as many of its people as it wants in the Senate?", and so forth.

Regarding the political climate of the electoral campaign, *Tin Sang* (July 17) was of the view that "the people of South Viet Nam are no longer interested in choosing representatives since these never do meaningful things to radically change their standard of living."

Likewise, *Chinh Luan* commented: "This time the 'Senate' race appears to lack in enthusiasm. Why do privileges and positions have so little appeal? Some reasons have been given, first and foremost the current disappointment of the masses, more particularly of the urban masses, with the government and all its undertakings among which one should, of course, mention especially the way the elections are organized." "This indifference accounts," the paper pointed out, "for the fact that the masses prefer staying at home instead of taking the trouble to go voting... Fed up with the brazen and glaring fraud in the recent provincial and municipal elections, the public cares little to turn out."

Tin Mat (August 28) wrote that there won't be all the conditions required to guarantee democratic elections on August 30, and that the government would do everything in its blessing.

Hoa Binh published a satirical poem picturing the future "congressmen" as "adoptive sons" of imperialists and profiteers rather than defenders of the people's interests. Entitled "Who to choose?", the poem presented the candidates as "apes transformed into men by war" and concluded:

We are fed up with such a farce
More performances will just draw more abuses.

The Saigon regime resembles a cranky boat that is being strengthened with rotten boards — the election farce. It's lost labour as the boat won't be able to weather the revolutionary storm sweeping South Viet Nam.

US setbacks will grow...

(*Continued from page 1*)

The appointment of David Bruce as chief US negotiator in Paris has been presented as an evidence of US good will, but the filling of a prolonged vacancy left by Cabot Lodge's resignation is far from meeting the requirements of a Viet Nam settlement, viz. cessation of US aggression, total withdrawal of US and satellite troops from South Viet Nam. The American and world peoples demand that the US give up its aggressor's obstinate stance and pay due consideration to the legitimate aspirations of the American people for an immediate repatriation of US troops and re-establishment of peace in Viet Nam.

Agnew's recent tour in a number of Asian countries gave no further proof of US "good will." He just tried to sell Nixon's "Asian doctrine" with a view to calming down US agents in this part of the world who had been alarmed by the tempestuous development of the national liberation movement in various countries. Agnew's activities had no other aim than to give a fillip to US satellites and encourage them to serve as tools for Washington to prolong its war of aggression in Indochina and aggravate the situation in South-East Asia.

There has been no fact to support US protestation of sincerity in negotiations. Nixon's "era of negotiation" is but an empty phrase camouflaging his war intent. US true colours are being bared in Viet Nam, Laos, Cambodia, Thailand, Taiwan, South Korea, the Philippines, Japan and many other places. The US is but "a neo-fascist, international gendarme and public enemy number one of the Indochinese peoples and mankind." (Joint Declaration of the People's Summit Conference)

IT goes without saying that so long as the war of aggression is prolonged, the war against aggression will also be kept up. It is the firm resolve of the South Vietnamese people that so long as "the US imperialists do not cease their war of aggression and pull out their troops and those of satellite countries from South Viet Nam and leave the South Vietnamese free to settle themselves their own affairs without foreign interference, they shall fight on until total victory." (Political Program of the South Viet Nam NFL)

In the flush of their successes, the South Vietnamese people and armed forces have, over the last 8 months, been pushing up their series of offensives and uprisings in furtherance of their above-mentioned resolve. They have been dealing crushing blows at the enemy. Keeping firm the initiative of action in all the three strategic zones, they have been inflicting serious losses on the US-puppets in lives and war materials. Both the US and puppet main forces had to pay heavy tolls. Collapse and disintegration continued to beset the puppet army. Cases of desertion and rebellion accompanied by killing of cruel thugs and destruction of enemy posts were more and more frequent among puppet troops a growing number of whom returned to the people's fold in full hit.

In Cambodia, after the US units withdrew to South Viet Nam, the puppet troops became the target of the Khmer Liberation Army's deadly strikes. The battles in Kiriром, Chup, Kreh, Kompong Chnnang, Kompong Thom, Kompong Cham, etc. all ended in bitter and shameful setbacks for the so-called ARVN. In the meantime, relying firmly on the people, the Khmer Liberation Army grew rapidly, winning engagement after engagement and liberating large areas of its homeland. Never was the puppet administration of Lon Nol and Sirik Matak so weakened and isolated as now. The failure of the US aggressors in their Cambodian venture is a foregone conclusion.

In Laos, all encroaching attacks of the US-puppets on the liberated areas ended in unsuccess. The Pathet Lao forces not only attached the enemy in areas close to Vientiane and Luang Prabang but dealt their offensive in Lower Laos as well. The free zone was expanded in the Plain of Jars, in Saravane, Pahse and Bolovens, etc.

FACTS in the three Indochinese countries show that the US imperialists are utterly obdurate, brutal and perfidious but they are meeting with very stinging setbacks. As they unleashed a war of aggression against Viet Nam and Laos, they were resolutely opposed by the Vietnamese and Lao peoples. As they escalated their criminal aggression to the whole of Indochina, they were resisted by the joint efforts of 50 million Indochinese. The battle of the peoples of South Viet Nam, Cambodia and Laos is a good quarrel. Their objectives are national independence, peace, neutrality and prosperity. So long as these legitimate demands are denied them by the US imperialists, they have to fight on. With the strength of their just cause and of the solidarity of 50 million Indochinese, with a sound leadership, highly motivated armed forces, and the wholehearted support of the world peoples, they can be certain of their ultimate victory.

However obdurate, warlike, brutal and tricky the US imperialists may be, they cannot escape from an inglorious final defeat.

SOUTH VIET NAM

25 YEARS OF FIGHTING AGAINST THE IMPERIALIST AGGRESSORS

Editor's Note. – *Following is the second part of the important speech delivered by* **Premier Pham Van Dong** *at the grand meeting at Hanoi on August 31, to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the founding of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam. This part was entitled.*

25 years of fighting against the imperialist aggressors to win back and defend independence and freedom.

THE past 25 years have been 25 years of unremitting struggle of our people against the imperialist aggressors to achieve national liberation, defend the Fatherland, maintain and strengthen the people's democratic power and build the new social regime.

During the nine years from 1945 to 1954, our people conducted a war of resistance against the French colonialists in response to the sacred appeal of President Ho Chi Minh: "We would rather sacrifice everything than lose our country. We are determined not to be enslaved... Those who have rifles will use their rifles; those who have swords will use their swords; those who have no swords will use spades, hoes or sticks. Everyone must endeavour to oppose the colonialists and save the country... Even if we have to endure hardships in the resistance war, with the determination to make sacrifices, victory will surely be ours!"

At first with bamboo sticks we fought the enemy while building the armed and political forces of the people, created and applied the strategy and tactics of people's war. Through a long and arduous struggle, we gradually tipped the balance of forces in our favour, dealt heavier and heavier blows at the enemy and won bigger and bigger victories.

The fight in Hanoi capital during the first few months after the outbreak of the national resistance war was marked by glorious feats of arms of our armed forces and people and an initial setback of the enemy's blitzkrieg tactics.

In the 1947 Autumn-Winter, our armed forces and people smashed the enemy's attack against the Viet Bac region aimed at destroying our main forces and nerve organs.

After that big victory, our armed forces and people stepped up fighting on all battlefields, developed guerrilla warfare in the enemy's rear, and at the same time, endeavoured to consolidate our rear bases. In three years of resistance, our forces grew rapidly. In 1949, the Chinese Revolution succeeded and the great People's Republic of China came into being, striking a deadly blow at imperialism, considerably tipping the world balance of forces in favour of the revolutionary forces, and strongly encouraging all nations in the world. In the 1950 Autumn-Winter, our armed forces and people won big victories in areas bordering on China, expanded and consolidated the Viet Bac resistance base, linking Viet Nam to new China and the socialist camp as a whole.

From then on, our armed forces and people launched one campaign after another in North Viet Nam midlands and delta, in Quang Binh – Quang Tri – Thua Thien area, in the southern part of Central Viet Nam and in South Viet Nam proper, wiping out much of the enemy live forces and enlarging the liberated zone everywhere. The war evolved rapidly and climaxed at Dien Bien Phu. The enemy mustered considerable forces at the Dien Bien Phu entrenched camp for a life-and-death show-down. Early in 1954, we tightened our siege on Dien Bien Phu and launched our attack. Under our heavy pressure, the enemy had to pour into Dien Bien Phu their remaining élite units. The US imperialists set up an airlift to supply the beleaguered French troops and contemplated extremely dangerous military measures in an attempt to ward off failure. But nothing could save them. After 55 days and nights of fighting, our armed forces completely wiped out the enemy at Dien Bien Phu, striking a staggering blow at the French expeditionary army and shattering the US imperialists' scheme to drag out and expand the war in Indochina.

The Dien Bien Phu victory made a decisive contribution to the success of the 1954 Geneva Conference on Indochina, leading to the signing of the Geneva Agreements which recognized the independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of our people, and of the Lao and Cambodian peoples, completely liberating the North and providing for the holding of free general elections in 1956 to reunify the country.

The Dien Bien Phu victory was a historic victory of our people and also a victory of far-reaching international significance of the peoples of the colonial and dependent countries, marked the collapse of old colonialism, strongly impelled the national liberation movement and set a bright example inspiring the oppressed peoples in the world.

UNWILLING to give up their aggressive design, immediately after the Geneva Conference, the US imperialists stepped into the French colonialists' shoes, quickly switching from cynical intervention to direct aggression against our country. Like the French colonialists at the end of the 19th century and after World War Two, this time the US imperialists jumped into the southern part of our country with the intention of extending their occupation to the whole country. Our second war of resistance broke out, this time against the extremely cruel, stubborn and perfidious imperialist ringleader who has enormous economic and military potentials and the support of a number of its allies and satellites.

From 1954, the US imperialists used the Ngo Dinh Diem stooge administration as an instrument to turn South Viet Nam into a new-type colony and military base in preparation for an eventual attack on the socialist North. Our compatriots in the South immediately stepped up their political struggle backed by armed activities to maintain the revolutionary movement there. When the US-Diem clique switched to fascist repression, ruthlessly massacring the patriots, our countrymen passed to the offensive, launching partial uprisings in vast rural areas. The "concerted uprisings" in late 1959 and early 1960 were a victory of particularly important significance, as they laid the groundwork for an all-out people's war under the banner of unity for national salvation of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation.

From 1961 to 1964, in South Viet Nam the US imperialists carried out a "special war" by means of the puppet army and administration under the direct command of the US with the aim of regaining control of the countryside through a system of "strategic hamlets," while undertaking a "search and destroy" campaign against the fledgeling armed forces of the South Vietnamese people. But the latter have foiled the "state policy of strategic hamlets" of the enemy, wiped out a big part of the puppets' main forces, and rapidly developed the forces of the revolution. The repeated military victories coupled with the mounting political movement in the towns and countryside and the ties led to the downfall of the despotic, fascist Ngo Dinh Diem administration and many other puppet administrations that succeeded it, and drove the US "special war" to bankruptcy.

Early in 1965, the US imperialists massively sent their expeditionary troops to South Viet Nam, started a local war there, launched a war of destruction by air and sea against the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, while feverishly intervening in Laos and constantly threatening Cambodia. On April 10, 1965, President Ho Chi Minh appealed to the people throughout the country: "Our people are living in an extremely glorious period of history. Our country has the great honour of being an outpost of the socialist camp and of the world's peoples who are struggling against imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism. Our people have fought and made sacrifices not only for the sake of their own freedom and independence but also of the common freedom and independence of the other peoples and of peace in the world... At present, to oppose the US and save the country is the most sacred task of every Vietnamese patriot... Let all of us single-mindedly unite millions as one man and be determined to defeat the US aggressors!

For the future of our Fatherland, for the happiness of our people, let all compatriots and fighters throughout the country march forward valiantly!"

From 1965 to 1967, the US imperialists beefed up their expeditionary army from 200,000 to over 400,000. Together with more than half a million puppet and satellite troops, they launched two dry-season strategic counter-offensives. The main objective was to "search and destroy" the main forces of the National Front for Liberation. However, in both dry seasons, they got hard blows and had to fall back from a strategic offensive position to a posture of passive defence. From then on, the heroic South Viet Nam armed forces and people, giving full scope to their offensive, have fought the enemy relentlessly and won big victories on all battlefields.

In the North, the US imperialist aggressors' war aimed at sabotaging socialist construction, impeding the great rear's support to the great front and swaying the entire Vietnamese people's determination to oppose the US aggression and save the country, met with tough resistance from the North Viet Nam armed forces and people, while the fight in the South continued developing steadily and powerfully. The criminal steps of escalation taken by the enemy in their war of destruction against the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam were defeated one after another.

It was in the general context of our glorious victories and the enemy's evident failure in both parts of the country that the general offensive and widespread uprising in Spring 1968 broke out. The strength accumulated in many years of people's war was turned into thunder blows dealt at the US and its puppets, hitting at one time almost all cities, province capitals, nerve organs, and important military bases and supply areas of the enemy, wiping out or disbanding a major part of their forces. This victory of paramount significance with regard to the overall situation of the war resounded far and wide in the world, and ushered in a new stage of the fight against US aggression, for national salvation. In late March 1968, the US imperialists had to stop in part the bombing in the North. More than a month later, the US Government had to agree to the holding of talks in Paris with the representative of the DRVN. A new front in our people's fight was opened. All along 1968, our people developing their victories and initiative of action, repeatedly hammered at the enemy on the battlefields in both parts of the country and on all the three fronts, and won big victories. In the South, the enemy was bogged down more and more deeply in their position of passive defence. In the North, the enemy had to accept complete failure of their war of destruction and to stop unconditionally their bombardments on the whole territory of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam. That was a victory of deep significance with regard to the whole war. In December 1968, the US Government agreed to a four-party conference in Paris with the participation of the representatives of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation which were afterwards representatives of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam.

Due to the obvious defeats suffered by the US in its war of aggression in Viet Nam, Johnson stepped down and Nixon took over in the United States under the deceptive slogan of restoring peace.

(Continued on page 7)

Fruitful operations in August

Miss Kan Doi, a teacher (at Kocava region), also going to the front

Kenh Ton is a guerilla of A Tuc village (Western Tri-Thien)

THE August 1970 military and political actions and agitation among enemy troops of the South Vietnamese people and armed forces *in all theatres of operation wiped out part of the enemy manpower on its defence line, shattered many military sub-sectors, levelled many positions and fortifications, foiled the US-puppet program of "special pacification" and secure substantial successes for themselves.*

Since the US troops had to dig in around Saigon, Hue and Da Nang and the bulk of the puppet main forces divisions and general reserve unit were assigned the task of defending the outer perimeter, both the US and puppet troops got bogged down on the front and in the rear. While the US was busy consolidating its inner belt of defence, the outer perimeter was left with inadequate protection since the puppets were in no position to cope with the situation. Geñeral Abrams, the US commander in South Viet Nam, rushed US 1sra Division 101 the record of which was one of heavy setbacks and forced withdrawal from Hill 935, West of Hue, on July 23) to the rescue of 6 battalions of the 1st puppet Division which came under the Thua Thien PLAF fire in the Coc Bai and Cu Pung areas, West of Hue.

All enemy "sweeps" mounted to support its "special pacification" were thwarted by the PLAF, especially in the Trung Bo and Nam Bo lowlands.

To provide a cover to the puppet troops in furtherance of "Vietnamization," the US command mustered all its air force, including B.52s and long-range cannons from vessels off the South China Sea, for wanton shellings against Tri-Thien, and the Trung Bo and Nam Bo lowlands. On Aug. 17, *AP* admitted that the US had mobilized all its B.52 strategic bombers in the Pacific area, totalling 100, from Guam, Okinawa and Thailand, to drop about 3,000 tons of bombs along the Lao–Viet Nam border, and that this was the fiercest bombing in the last two years.

The struggle of the Tri-Thien-Hue people and armed forces, however, was intensified in all the three strategic zones. In the first 25 days of August, the Tri-Thien (including North Quang Tri) people and armed forces wiped out nearly 4,000 enemy troops, including 3 battalions and several companies and platoons of the US and puppet armies. 90 aircraft were downed or destroyed on the ground, 67 military vehicles (50 tanks and armoured cars) and 16 cannons put out of commission, 13 transport and combat ships burnt or heavily damaged, 11 fuel depots and other war means set afire. The guerillas and regional troops, moreover, overturned 5 military trains, destroyed 5 engines and scores of cars on the Hue–Da Nang railway line.

West of Da Nang, the US-puppets suffered setbacks not only in the Ben Giang, Kham Duc... areas, but also in their rear bases and positions inside and outside Da Nang and Hoi An and Tam Ky towns. Many US, puppet and satellite companies stationed in the countryside and cities came under the Quang Nam and Da Nang PLAF onsets. In an action against US troops at Nui Sam (near the Chu Lai base) the patriots knocked out hundreds of GIs from US Brigade 196 just brought in from Kham Duc as reinforcements.

North of Saigon, enemy troops thrown into the aggression against Cambodia or withdrawn therefrom often fell into PLAF ambushes or were attacked by them. In a week from Aug. 2 to 8, the Liberation fighters put out of action 430 enemy troops and 85 military vehicles on the road section between Trai Bi and Xa Mat *(Tay Ninh)*. If the period from mid-July up to now is taken into account, in this area, 1,200 adverse troops and 270 military vehicles were put out of action. A military train ran into an ambush laid by the PLAF at Binh Loi Bridge, near Saigon. Enemy officers' living quarters at Ky Son, Tran Hung Dao street, in downtown Saigon, and those living in Cho Lon were also subjected to nine attacks by people's self-defence units.

In the *Nam Bo, Trung Bo and Tay Nguyen (High Plateaux) theatres of operation*, the PLAF combining political and military actions, staged continual assaults on enemy "pacification" teams from village to district and military sub-sector level. Guerillas and regional troops, while levelling or encircling military posts, and forcing their evacuation by the enemy by the hundreds in the Mekong Delta, also lent a powerful hand to the local people's uprising against the "special pacification" program, and agitation for the removal of all forms of coercion and the dismantling of a big number of "strategic hamlets," thus regaining their rights as masters in such localities as in Tra Vinh, Rach Gia, Can Tho, Ben Tre, My Tho (Nam Bo), Quang Ngai, Binh Dinh, Phan Thiet (Trung Bo) and in certain places in Gia Lai (High Plateaux).

In *Western Nam Bo* alone, the people and armed forces in Tra Vinh, Can Tho, Rach Gia and Ca Mau provinces hit hard at the enemy repressive apparatus in such important areas as Song Doc, Phung Hiep, Long My and Hon Soc, while launching repeated onsets on units of puppet Divisions 21. In the first half of August alone, the PLAF wiped out or disbanded 3,000 adverse troops, among them one puppet main force battalion written off the musterroll in the Hon Soc area. Tens of companies and platoons and "pacification" teams were destroyed. Uprisings by tens of thousands of the local people took place with the assistance of the guerillas and succeeded in shattering 180 "strategic hamlets"; 30 of these came under the people's control in Tra Vinh and Can Tho provinces. The people and guerillas in Rach Gia province hunted for enemy spies and agents whom they eventually punished or put in re-education camps. They also flattened 30 enemy posts.

In *Central Nam Bo*, enemy forces of all kinds — civil guards, self-defence and other forces of oppression — were also in dire straits as a result of growing guerilla activities in all places. Within a night, the people and armed forces in Ben Tre province simultaneously stormed 600 enemy posts, 6 military sub-sectors, district capitals and urban centres, 2 rear bases of puppet Regiments 10 (Division 7) and 14 (Division 9) while helping more than 10,000 local people rise up and pull down over 40 "strategic hamlets," eliminating or heavily trouncing many puppet companies and platoons. PLAF strikes were also directed against puppet main force units assigned to the protection of "pacification" teams: a puppet battalion was thus badly mauled at Tan Hao village, with 250 puppet troops wiped out.

While series of puppet posts and fortifications in Binh Thuan, Tuyen Duc and Binh Tuy provinces *(Southern Trung Bo)* became targets of PLAF attacks, in the first 15 days of August, 1,000 enemy troops, among them 7 US-puppet companies were knocked out, and 20 military vehicles and a big amount of war materials destroyed. In the course of an operation against a cluster of US units at Nui Gia *(Binh Tuy province)*, the PLAF wrought havoc on 2 infantry and artillery companies of the 199th Brigade.

The exploits scored by the South Vietnamese people and armed forces in August were devastating blows at the US-puppets at the right moment they were busy consolidating their positions and starting their "special pacification" program.

Ly Hi Grotto, holocaust of enemy troops

THE jungle track was pock-marked with bomb craters. Six choppers were spotting the place. Our column of troops received the orders to move fast to Ly Hi Grotto, 26 kilometres south-east of Hue city.

Heavily laden with arms and ammunition, the young fighters of A Battalion nimbly jumped from one rock to another and wormed their way through creepers and smouldering shell craters.

Ly Hi Grotto, where built the gun emplacements, radar ranges and underground shelters and surrounded by barbed wire entanglements, was the site of the CP of the US 2nd Airborne Battalion and defended by two infantry companies, one 105mm gun company, one recoilless gun platoon and one armoured squadron. Besides, the 4th Battalion of puppet troops set up its CP there to launch preventive operations south-east of Hue city.

Realizing the scheme of the enemy, our men penetrated deep into his defence lines and tightened their noose around him. The first salvoes of our guns took their complete toll in manwares, and all his positions were within our shooting range. Within ten minutes, the armoured squadron was quickly disposed of by a combat unit of A Battalion. The survivors, huddled up in their fortifications, tried to offer some resistance, but were mown down by hand grenades of our fighters.

For safety's sake, the enemy garrisons nearby did not budge.

After a thirty minutes' engagement, our A battalion gained complete control of the battlefield: it wiped out two battalion CPs, two infantry companies, one artillery company, one recoilless gun platoon, and one armoured squadron or more than 200 enemy casualties, destroyed 4 105mm guns, 2 recoilless guns, 4 tanks, 2 radar ranges, 2 internal combustion engines and 50 underground shelters and captured a quantity of weapons.

At 8 a.m. on February 12, an enemy's party coming to pick up corpses was heavily mortared and suffered additional casualties. Helicopters were then sent in to clear the battlefield of the enemy troops killed on February 12 and the previous night.

On the morning of February 13 and 14, the Liberation fighters wiped out another number of enemy soldiers.

The Ly Hi Grotto victory was a glorious feat of arms of A Battalion who was able to annihilate a sizeable number of enemy troops with units smaller than the enemy's.

All the Nation Off to the Front

To the North with love

It is not only now that I understand the rear,
It is not only now that your gun is trained on the foe.
There is not only moonlight and hooting in Hai Phong at night.
Not only midland woods are air pirates' graves.
Oh, my dear!
This morning I heard the voice of the Fatherland
Under the ether as blue as your eyes.
My heart was all in a tremble as when encountering a long-absent relative,
Twenty years ago—in a Southernmost jungle, head and foot bare,
Eyes wet with tears, listening to Uncle Ho's call:
"To arms!
Use your rifle, if you have one, take your sword, if no other arm is at hand."
National Salvation units went up the line...
In Ca Pass, Ban Me, Hoc Mon, Ba Diem,
Every dourian tree, every stream was disputed
With flintlocks, jungle knives and bamboo spears,
For Dien Bien Phu to come to pass, after nine long gory years.
Oh you, gallant gunners of Nghe An, Con Co,
Oh you, lithe lassie of Thai Nguyen, Phu Tho construction sites self-defence corps
Oh you, coop farmer from Nam Ngan, a sickle in hand and a rifle across the back,
Oh you, Polytechnic graduate, ready for a highland assignment
Are dreaming of duplicating your fathers' and brothers' feats.
Hark to Uncle's appeal! Hark to his holy exhortations!
Should Hanoi be reduced to rubble and ashes,
We'll keep everything, with freedom whole!
The half-ploughed fields were entrusted to mother and sister,
Pack and rifle on your backs, you set off,
Answering the call of the Frontline, dreaming of high feats.
Oh, the poignant departures... We all down here in the South have been feeling it
Since the aggressor came: with burning hate,
Hugging our kin's bodies in our laps, we think of half of our homeland.
Up there in the North, are you having a quiet night?
Are the kindergartens issued extra blankets in the monsoon?
In Da Nang, Ba Gia, Dong Xoai, Ap Bac,
I have fought with arm in hand
To preserve our wide seas and long rivers
For trains to run in the daytime, for the "ban" flower to snow.
Oh, departures from the rear, explosive with wrath
At air pirates grassed from each rung of escalation!
Oh, departures green with camouflage and red with stars and black with machine-guns!
Oh, departures which never stop flowing
Like the Ma River, the Red River rolling their silt!
Oh, departures which take place in the Ho Chi Minh era
And add to the glory of gorgeous July!
Ave lads and lassies going up the line,
Not only out of love for the South. For the five continents and four seas
They climb steep passes, they live on pressed rice, they walk in rubber tyre sandals.
Have you heard of Con Dao [illegible] an enemy graveyard;
When by the [illegible] streets were [illegible] with incarnadine?
"Use your rifle, if you have one, take your sword, if no other arm is at hand,"
For the second time, the whole nation went off to the front.

GIANG NAM

Political prisoners up against repression

On August 18, 500 political prisoners in the Chi Hoa gaol rebelled against the penitentiary authorities, striking tin casks against the walls of their wards and shouting in unison protest against the detention regime and repression, and for better overall conditions.

The alarmed US-puppet rulers sent in paratroopers and field policemen who used tear-gas grenades and bayonets against the insurgents. Many prisoners were wounded whom they took away to conceal their atrocities. The others demanded that their injured comrades be brought back and properly treated, and that repression be immediately terminated.

On August 24, the female political prisoners in Thu Duc prison followed suit. According to AFP, they urged release of 108 women detained at Poulo Condor, liquidation of individual cells to which a good many inmates had been sent and had never been seen again. Four days early, the same women had staged a sit-in in protest against the prevailing penitentiary conditions and for better treatment.

US crimes in South VN

6 pounds of US toxic chemicals per population head

On Aug. 25, 1970, Senator Gaylor Nelson denounced the US administration's intensification of chemical warfare in South Viet Nam, *Reuter* reported. According to figures produced by him, from 1962 up to now the US administration has sprayed more than 100 million pounds of herbicide over an area of 5,500,000 acres in South Viet Nam, or 6 pounds per head of population.

Nelson's denunciation came at a moment when the US Senate started debates on his amendment to end the use of toxic chemicals as war means. This would affect the 19,243 million dollars military expenditure bill tabled by the Pentagon.

Senator Nelson asked why the US was trying to destroy the environment the Vietnamese people were living in while it claimed to "defend Viet Nam"?

NEWS FROM THE LIBERATED AREAS

★ The Second Congress of Agricultural Emulation Fighters was convened by the *Western Nam Bo NFL Committee and Administrative Authorities*, with a view to encouraging the peasants to overcome difficulties and hardships, push up production, fight against US-puppet plans of concentrating the population and encroaching upon their land, defend and enlarge the liberated zone.

Following their repeated setbacks, the US-puppets have stepped up attacks on Western Nam Bo. However the peasants there, ffrmly resolved to harvest an "anti-US bumper crop," have continued to increase agricultural production. In many provinces not only has the cultivation acreage plan been overfulfilled, but new lands have also been reclaimed and thousands of hectares of fallow ricefields again put under crops.

★ A Conference to sum up experience in information and cultural activities in the first six months and outline plans for the second half of 1970 was held by the *Ben Tre province Information and Cultural Service* to impel forward its work and draw practical lessons in production and the fighting so as to defend and consolidate the liberated zone.

In spite of fierce and uninterrupted US-puppet operations the Service has been able to open many courses to train more than 1,000 cadres for the branch.

It has published 6 issues of its periodical to bare the "emergency pacification" plan of the US-puppets, totalling more than 9,000 copies. It has released 26 information bulletins with a half a million circulation. In 7 districts and 15 villages of the province, a regular information bulletin has been distributed which supplies the people in the liberated zone with the latest production and combat news in the province.

In the first six months of this year, various art ensembles of the province gave perfórmances for 136,000 attendances. Items presented were not only warmly acclaimed by the people of the liberated zone, but also highly appreciated by those of the in-between areas and even by soldiers of the puppet army.

Despite stepped-up atrocious enemy assaults, photographers have been very active taking and releasing thousands of photos depicting combat, production and building activities in the liberated zone.

★ Complementary education in the *Tri-Thien liberated zone* is being widely expanded. X village, near the DMZ, has succeeded in persuading the totality of its inhabitants to regularly attend classes, and its Administrative Authorities have organized many courses for people of various ages.

General view of the Second Congress of the South Viet Nam Liberation Students' Association

Thieu-Ky's democracy as seen by a US journalist

The Thieu-Ky-Khiem quisling clique's true complexion as a gang of fascists and traitors to the nation is becoming increasingly apparent with their harsh repression of any one favouring peace, democratic liberties, better living conditions and US withdrawal from South Viet Nam. The Baltimore Sun *of July 12, 1970 carried an article by its Saigon correspondent, Michael Parks, entitled "Evidence supports claims of repression in Viet Nam" of which we give below some excerpts:*

"POLITICAL liberties in South Viet Nam seem to be eroding in what the government (the puppet administration – *Ed*)'s critics charge is an unprecedented wave of oppression.

The critics, some of them anti-government radicals but including a number of respected middle-class citizens, say political opponents of the regime of President Nguyen Van Thieu are being jailed solely for their opposition, generally without a civil trial and frequently for indefinite periods.

They also say that political prisoners, who number between 25,000 and 80,000 by government estimates, are routinely tortured, beaten and confined in overcrowded, unsanitary pens and cages.

Other charges include a sharp increase in press censorship, elections rigged to favour government candidates and daily efforts by the secret police to intimidate students, disabled veterans, Buddhists and other dissidents..."

A study team of religious, anti-war and student leaders from the US and three other countries concluded today after a week's visit:

"There is an enormous amount of political repression in Viet Nam. It is exhibited most actively, most brutally against those in the South Vietnamese peace movement, notably the students."

One team member, Rabbi Balfour Brickner, Director of interreligious affairs for the Union of American Hebrew Congregation, added:

"Insofar as the US government supports the present regime, it tolerated in Saigon what would be intolerable back home."

Secret police rounded up a number of student leaders this week, including a dozen from technical schools outside Saigon to warn them they face arrest and military trials if they continue to demonstrate for peace and the withdrawal of American troops.

Buddhist leaders were informed that if they press their peace demand they, too, will be arrested and their pagodas closed.

The chief spokesman of disabled veterans said today he was told by the secret police, "What happened to the students can happen to you if you persist" (in demonstration).

Saigon's 40 daily newspapers are being seized with increasing frequency. Unofficial figures place the number of issues seized at 213 since April. Most of the offending issues carried stories outlining possible peace proposals or reporting on various domestic problems, including the student movement.

The handiest index of the government's actions against dissenters is the number of political prisoners, which grew by about 3,600 in the past year; approximately 60 per cent of the current 41,000 prison population fall in the political category, according to government estimates.

A committee of the Lower House which has been investigating charges of political oppression, reported these figures do not include 12,000 to 15,000 persons held under a 1968 administrative decree permitting the pre-trial jailing of communist suspects for up to two years with the jail term renewable This number has increased about 4,000 in the last year...

A philosopher and political scientist, recently resigned as dean of the Faculty of Letters at Saigon University in protest. "It has become impossible to remain passive about all this," he said. "The direction the Thieu regime is taking is repugnant to all men of conscience. I was formerly what in America is called 'an establishment man.' The seeds of ultimate decay from within are being planted by this wave of oppression."

Another study team from the US found last year that "many thousands" of persons arrested are denied procedural protection, that military field courts were sentencing thousands more without fair hearings and that torture and brutality were widespread in the arrest and interrogation procedures.

It also concluded that "repression continues to be pervasive and brutal."

Finally, the group of religious leaders and lawyers reported that "without question the Thieu-Ky government uses the word 'communism' to silence dissent and weaken political and religious opposition, relying more on police state tactics and American support than upon the representation and popular support."

A priest said he was jailed by order of Vice-President Nguyen Cao Ky, then Premier, in 1967 for urging his parishioners to participate in the presidential election, whoever they might vote for.

A 34-year-old Buddhist nun from the Mekong Delta said she had been imprisoned in Con Son tiger cages for participating in a demonstration. "My crime," she said, "was that I marched for peace. We were not arrested at once but a week later. The police came in the night and took me away."

The member of the international study team, Alex Carey, and senior lecturer in the psychology of international relations at the University of New South Wales, summed up his impressions this way:

"There was some uncertainty whether the Thieu government was as oppressive as it was painted. Some of the things it did made it seem not objectionable. But even those of us who were most dubious are no longer dubious. We have talked with the students, their mothers and fathers and heard how they are held in jail for years often without any charges, without any idea how long the prison sentence is. That is how democracy works in South Viet Nam."

NUFK'S CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETS

ACCORDING to *AKI*, the Bureau of Head of State Norodom Sihanouk has issued a press communique on the meeting of the Central Committee of the National United Front of Kampuchea.

The meeting held on August 20-21 was presided over by Samdech Penn Nouth, Chairman of the Political Bureau of the NUFK's Central Committee and Prime Minister of the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia.

The Central Committee of the NUFK, the communique said, passed a political report submitted by its chairman on the great and all-round victories of the Front since the founding of the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia.

It pointed out that at present the Cambodian Liberation Armed Forces have completely liberated over two-thirds of the Cambodian territory with more than 2,800,000 inhabitants. The Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia has been recognized by 23 countries and national liberation movements.

The meeting adopted the financial draft law of the Royal Government and the proposal of the NUFK's Political Bureau and the Royal Government to give more power to these personalities who are leading the resistance to US aggression, for national salvation, in the Cambodian liberated areas. It ratified the appointment of Khieu Samphan, Minister of National Defence, as Vice-Premier and several other resistance personalities now in Cambodia as Vice-Ministers of the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia. The meeting also decided to gradually move a number of ministries into the liberated areas.

The Central Committee of the NUFK agreed to the admission as its members of many personalities now taking part in the anti-US resistance at home.

The Central Committee has set up its 3-member Permanent Secretariat and the Secretariat of its Political Bureau composed of two alternate members of the Political Bureau, Keat Chhon and Thioun Prasith, respectively Minister delegate to the Premier's Office, and Minister in Charge of Co-ordination of the Struggle for National Liberation.

5th Meeting of Prince Souphanouvong's Special Envoy and Prince Souvanna Phouma

ACCORDING to *KPL*, at Prince Souvanna Phouma's proposal, Tiao Souk Vongsak, special envoy of Prince Souphanouvong, Chairman of the Central Committee of the Lao Patriotic Front, on August 21 met Prince Souvanna Phouma for the 5th time in Vientiane.

He was accompanied by Major Phonsay.

At the meeting, in view of Prince Souvanna Phouma's vague argumentation aimed at evading the question of meeting between plenipotentiaries of the two Princes, Tiao Souk Vongsak once again stressed:

"In Your Highness's message on June 25 to Prince Souphanouvong, you have affirmed: 'My representatives are ready to meet yours'. Your Highness has thus recognized the necessity of organizing a meeting between plenipotentiaries of the two Princes prior to the holding of talks between the Lao parties concerned to settle the Lao problem. Your Highness has also proposed to make Khang Khay the site of meeting. In his message of June 25, 1970 Prince Souphanouvong has agreed with your proposals. Therefore the question of the meeting between plenipotentiaries of the two Princes and that of the site of the meeting have been agreed upon and settled. It is hoped that Your Highness would not change your view nor bring these two questions under discussion again, but would embark on the discussion of other concrete questions so as to prepare for the meeting between plenipotentiaries of two Princes."

Tiao Souk Vongsak went on:

"To settle the Lao issue is a very complicated matter. To ensure success for the coming talks between the Lao parties concerned to settle the Lao question, it is necessary to make good preparations. The meeting between plenipotentiaries of the two Princes is necessary and aimed at well preparing for the coming talks between the Lao parties concerned and ensuring a correct settlement of the Lao question. That is why Prince Souphanouvong insists upon the necessity of organizing a meeting of plenipotentiaries of the two Princes."

Tiao Souk Vongsak said in conclusion:

"The Lao National Union Government was overthrown by the illegal coup d'etat on April 19, 1964. The current Vientiane administration is but an illegal administration. The proposal on the appointment of a 'delegation' of that administration for negotiations is but a manoeuvre aimed at hindering a meeting between plenipotentiaries of the two Princes. Such a 'delegation' has nothing to do with the said meeting and has no right to hold talks with anybody."

The 5th meeting in Vientiane between Prince Souphanouvong's special envoy and Prince Souvanna Phouma once again testifies to the sincere desire of Prince Souphanouvong to correctly settle the Lao problem. It also proves that the meeting of plenipotentiaries of the two Princes in Laos could not be held at an early date due to the evasive attitude of Prince Souvanna Phouma resulting from the pressure by the US and the ultra reactionaries in Vientiane who try to sabotage the said meeting by proposing the appointment of a 'delegation' of the Vientiane administration for negotiation.

Also on August 21, Tiao Souk Vongsak — Prince Souphanouvong's special envoy — and Soth Phetrasy-permanent representative of the Lao Patriotic Front in Vientiane — met with the French and Indian ambassadors in Vientiane.

25 Years of Fighting...

(Continued from page 3)

But President Nixon spoke of peace only to conceal his policy of continuing and intensifying the war of aggression in furtherance of the so-called "Vietnamization of the war." That plan is essentially intended to perpetuate the US occupation of South Viet Nam, feverishly build up the puppet army and administration, push up "pacification" with extremely brutal methods with a view to realizing the US cherished ambition of turning South Viet Nam into a new-type colony and military base of the US and perpetuating the partition of Viet Nam.

The "Vietnamization of the war" plan born of the failure of the US has met with successive setbacks on the South Viet Nam battlefield ever since early 1969. The US aggressors thought they could get out of their predicament by expanding the war to the whole of Indochina. But their military adventure in Cambodia proved to be a dismal failure. The US "special war" in Laos also suffered repeated blows. The setbacks sustained by the US imperialists in Indochina have driven them into tight straits right in the United States and in the world.

OUR protracted and arduous fight is unfolding in very favourable conditions whereas our enemy is facing innumerable difficulties. Our people throughout the country, upholding their determination to fight and to win, are persevering in and stepping up the fight against US aggression, for national salvation, with the resolve to put into effect President Ho Chi Minh's Testament: "No matter what difficulties and hardships may lie ahead, our people are sure to win total victory. The US imperialists will have to pull out. Our Fatherland will be reunified. Our countrymen in the North and in the South will be re-united under the same roof."

At the same time, the Vietnamese people are wholeheartedly and unreservedly strengthening their militant solidarity with the peoples of our two brotherly neighbouring countries in order to completely defeat the US imperialist aggressors and their flunkeys in the whole of Indochina.

Our people's victory will be a victory of an international and historic significance. President Ho Chi Minh has pointed out: "Our country will have the signal honour of being a small nation which, through a heroic struggle, has defeated two big imperialisms—the French and American — and made a worthy contribution to the national liberation movement."

In Brief

- In a press conference on August 19, the "Cuban Committee for Solidarity with the Indochinese Peoples" launched the "Viet Nam — Indochina" campaign for better understanding of Viet Nam and other Indochinese countries and stronger solidarity with, and support to, their resistances.
- The French-Viet Nam Medical Committee and its European counterparts just issued a communique condemning the Lon Nol - Sirik Matak clique's illegal seizure and use of medicines and medical equipment which they had sent as gifts to the Vietnamese people via Phnom Penh in February this year.

The French-Viet Nam Medical Committee called for further contributions to the next medical shipments for the Indochinese.

- Speaking at the celebration of the 25th Promulgating Anniversary of the Constitution of the Hungarian People's Republic, President of the Presidium of the HPR Pal Losonczi denounced US aggression of Indochina and stressed, "Peace and independence in Viet Nam and in the whole of Indochina can only be realized on the basis of the proposals of the GVNR ERG, the NFL, the DRVN government and in the spirit of the 1954 and 1962 Geneva Agreements on Indochina and on Laos.
- The "Norway Committee for Solidarity with Viet Nam" called a special session in Oslo to welcome the Information Bureau of the RSVN just established there and decided on the observance of solemn celebrations of the 10th founding anniversary of the NFL and a week of support to Viet Nam from 19 to 25, October.
- The Australian "Moratorium Committee for Viet Nam" planned a "Week of Moratorium for Viet Nam" from September 12 to 19 to press for the Australian Government's pull-out of all its troops from South Viet Nam.
- Mr. SW Taylor, a famous doctor in New Zealand, ended on August 21 his 40-day hunger - strike in protest against US aggression in Viet Nam. His action had focused New Zealand public attention on the US criminal war against Viet Nam.
- On the night of August 23, some 200 Americans in Portland city marched to Hilton Hotel where US Attorney General John Mitchell was speaking, to protest the US war of aggression in Viet Nam and persecution of anti-war Americans by the US ruling circles.
- The convention of the Michigan branch of the Democratic Party adopted a resolution urging an immediate end to US aggression against Viet Nam, the total withdrawal of the US troops from South Viet Nam, and compensations from the US government to a future unified Viet Nam.
- The US Recruiting Service admitted on August 28, with relevant statistics, that the anti-draft movement among US youth had seriously developed during the Viet Nam war and still continued to rise.

On the occasion of the Journalists' Solidarity Day

Let us fight US aggression with our pens

NOWHERE has freedom of the press and freedom of speech been so intolerably challenged, and pressmen so ruthlessly repressed as under the US-dominated Saigon regime. In their political isolation and weakness, the puppet authorities have been striving to conceal the truth, their crimes and those of their American masters. Drastic censorship has been enforced, and repression, fines, arrests, even brutalities against journalists and newspaper owners stepped up. The closing down and seizure of issues of newspapers have become common occurrences. Since March this year, over 100 issues of 40 papers have been seized for their exposure of US-puppet atrocities and reflection to a degree of urban public feeling with demands for an end to American aggression, restoration of peace, etc. On June 25 alone, the issues of 11 papers were confiscated; in six days beginning July 1, 18 others fell victims to the same measure. By now it is safe to say that no day passes without such an action. Saigonese still remember how policemen beat up newsman Lo Vinh and snatched his camera with which he was taking a snapshot of a war invalids' demonstration. Policemen also hit foreign correspondents on the premises of the Saigon Parliament where they were trying to interview MP Tran Ngoc Chau who had taken refuge there against arrest.

The Americans and their henchmen hope that with economic, political and police action they will be able to cow the press in the occupied zone and prevent honest journalists from denouncing their corrupt regime. But they are grossly mistaken: the more fascist their attitude, the stronger, fiercer and wider attack of the press. In order to support the struggle of the youth and students, the latter served the warning: "We will not relate all that is done by the government," and decided to suspend publication for one day. Clearly, arbitrariness cannot cow the national spirit and conscience of honest journalists as well as their zeal to serve their readers. From the approval and backing of wide segments of the urban people, from their closely coordinated action with those of the youth, students, war wounded, Buddhists and others, the press in Saigon drives more and more strength for its own efforts to defend its legitimate rights.

On the other hand, in the liberated areas, the National Front for Liberation and the SVNR Provisional Revolutionary Government pay particular attention to raising the political, ideological and professional standards of pressmen. They provide them with facilities to develop all their capacities. Each region, province and city has each its own newspaper.

Conscious that there cannot exist freedom of the press without national independence, patriotic and democratic pressmen in South Viet Nam, together with the people, have overcome untold difficulties, in their fight against the enemy not only with their pens but with arms in hands as well. They follow the PLAF in their onslaught against adverse garrisons to get the latest, most factual news, the most vivid photographs and film strips. Many have fallen on the field, credited with valuable achievements. In general, the patriotic and democratic press in South Viet Nam has lived up to its important role and made its best contribution to the combat for national salvation.

The 6th Congress of the International Journalists' Organization has made it clear in its resolution: "The struggle of the Vietnamese people, now at the centre of the common struggle of all oppressed peoples, is a source of inexhaustible encouragement for all those who are fighting for the liberation of their countries, for liberty and democracy, for peace and social progress. The Vietnamese people's war of resistance against the US imperialists constitutes an integral part of the present fight of the world's peoples against imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism." This resistance has enlisted the sympathy and support of all the socialist countries, of progressive mankind, including vanguard journalists in all continents. For many years honest journalists throughout the world, with all their available means, have been diffusing and highlighting the successes of the South Vietnamese people, and condemning American aggression, thereby countering effectively US peace ploys. Recently, the IJO has raised its initiates by holding international journal exams on the occasion of the 10th founding anniversary of the South Viet Nam NFL (December 20, 1970).

This valuable backing and assistance has been instrumental in the accomplishments of the South Vietnamese people and the development of the patriotic and democratic press in South Viet Nam. As a member of the South Viet Nam Patriotic and Democratic Journalists Association, *South Viet Nam in Struggle* sincerely thanks its friends and colleagues around the world.

Now that the US imperialists have extended their aggressive war to the whole of Indochina, more than ever before all patriotic and democratic journalists in South Viet Nam pledge stronger solidarity with their colleagues in the occupied zone and every where in the world, and fulfilment of their responsibility to the best of their abilities with a view to the liberation of South Viet Nam and to national independence, peace, democracy and social progress on our planet.

Agnew — Sandwichman of "Nixon's doctrine"

ON August 22, US Vice-President Spiro Agnew began his second trip to Asia in the year. Besides South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand and South Viet Nam, he will call at Phnom Penh and have talks with the Lon Nol - Sirik Matak clique, Western press reports said.

Agnew started his tour one day after the US Senate had passed two draft amendments demanding the Nixon administration to cut down aid to Pak Jung Hi and Thai mercenary troops in South Viet Nam and to stop financing any invading Saigon puppet troops or Thai troops or troops of any other US satellite in Cambodia and Laos.

In face of the bewilderment of the lackeys, Agnew's current visit has the mission of bracing up their morale with a view to tying them further to the US war chariot in South Viet Nam and in Indochina. However, Agnew has nothing but the old "Nixon doctrine" - as a sedative for the US henchmen. On Nixon's order, Agnew has to make the US vassals believe that the US continues to keep its commitments, to maintain the "US role and presence in South-East Asia." Seeing Agnew off on August 22, Nixon reminded him of his "Guam conceptions" which are not aimed at speeding up the withdrawal of US troops from Asia, instead at providing war means to US satellites to carry out the so-called "mutual help to turn the Pacific into a zone of peace." In San Clemente, Guam and Seoul, Agnew repeatedly ballyhooed the objective of his trip, namely "to clearly affirm once again the commitment on the US presence in South-East Asia."

Concerning the Cambodian problem, Agnew brazenly stated that the US would do everything it could to help the Lon Nol government for what happened in Cambodia was connected with the security of the US troops in Viet Nam.

Agnew also mentioned the possibility of sending US ground troops back to Cambodia, if the security of the US troops in South Viet Nam and the success of the "Vietnamization of the war" programme were jeopardized.

For all his sabre-rattling, however, Agnew is unable to cover up US confusion in face of the ever-growing difficulties due to the war prolongation in South Viet Nam and war expansion to the whole of Indochina.

Instead he further exposes US obstinate and brutal aggressive design against the three Indochinese countries. Although they have sustained heavy setbacks, the US imperialists still cling to the "Nixon doctrine" of using Asians to fight Asians, Indochinese to fight Indochinese, with US weapons and war means, and the US air support. The US continues to prolong its war of aggression in Viet Nam and to expand war to the whole of Indochina. However, the more obdurate and cruel the US imperialists are, the more resolute and united the peoples in the three Indochinese countries will be in their effort to inflict still more stinging reverses on their common enemy.

Agnew's Asian trip will surely end in bitter failure, because Nixon's doctrine cannot quieten the US satellites, extricate them from their perplexity in face of the rising revolutionary tide in their own countries, and ward off the US imperialists from their humiliating defeat in Viet Nam, Indochina and Asia. (GPA)

American Shadow — *Cartoon from the Komsomolskaia Pravda* (USSR)

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